

CONFIDENTIAL
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Siam

DATE DISTR. (25 March 1948)

SUBJECT Selection of Site for the Soviet Legation

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. The Soviet Legation will be established in the palace in which the Bank of Siam is now located. This palace, the former residence of Prince Parabattra, father of Prince Chumphot, will be taken by the Soviets on a 99-year lease. Prince Chumphot, the owner, is taking steps to have the Bank moved out.
2. Negotiations for the lease of the palace involved Egereff (first name not reported), an employee of D. Couper-Johnston Company. Egereff, a Russian who had not previously emphasized his nationality, announced at the time of the Soviet delegation's arrival that he was going to resign from D. Couper-Johnston and that as soon as the Legation was set up he would become a member of the Government Trade Commission in Bangkok.
3. Egereff said that the Russians will be in the market for all the tin and rubber that they can get and will pay for them in any currency desired. They will eventually bring Russian ships to Bangkok to pick up their cargoes.

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